



SSC CGL/CPO/CHSL/STENO

ENGLISH

NEW PATTERN पर आधारित

TOP 10 MOST
CONFUSING RULES OF

GRAMMAR



LIVE | 03:00 PM

By Shalini Mahendras



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1. Its and It's

'Its' without an apostrophe is the possessive form.

We see it in sentences like this:

For Example :

1. The cat licked its tail.

2. The phone fits into its docking station, like this.

The tail belongs to the cat. The docking station belongs to the phone. That's why we call it possessive.



B. ‘It’s’ with an apostrophe is the abbreviation for it is:

For Example :

- 1. It’s raining. (It is raining.)**
- 2. It’s nice to see you. (It is nice to see you.)**

Occasionally, we use ‘it’s’ as an abbreviation for it has:

It’s been raining. (It has been raining.)



2. Whom and who

Whom should be used to refer to the object of a verb or preposition.

1. **Who** should be used to refer to the subject of a sentence.

2. **Whom** should be used to refer to the object of a verb or preposition.

► **When to use who:**

In a sentence, who is used as a subject.

1. **Who** would like to go on vacation?

2. **Who** made these awesome quesadillas?



▶ **When to use whom:**

Whom is used as the object of a verb or preposition.

Examples:

▶ **To whom was the letter addressed?**

▶ **Whom do you believe?**

▶ **I do not know with whom I will go to the prom.**



3. I were?

‘I wish I were...’ is a sentence structure that is used to **express a want or desire**. The want or desire is **unreal, impossible or only potentially possible**.

- ▶ ‘I wish I were...’ forms the subjunctive mood in English. **The subjunctive mood expresses something that is wanted or desired but is not immediately possible**. The subjunctive mood is used when the speaker does not think their desire is possible in the immediate present or near future.



Examples of The Phrase I Wish I Were

- ▶ “I wish I were taller.”
- ▶ “I wish I were smarter.”
- ▶ “I wish I were funnier.”
- ▶ “I wish I were prettier.”
- ▶ “I wish I were more handsome.”

Note :

We should only use ‘was’ to talk about past situations that we desired to be true. “I wish I was taller when I was in school,” or “I wish I was there,” sound like the speaker is talking about the past and a desire in the past instead of a desire in the present.



4. FEW VS. A FEW and LITTLE VS. A LITTLE

A few” means “some”. (Positive)

“Few” means “not many”. (Negative)

For Example:

- 1. A few people signed up for the course. (Some people signed up for it.)**
- 2. Few people signed up for the course. (Not many people signed up for it.)**

Little and a little work the same way with uncountable nouns:

- 1. We gained a little information from the spy. (Some information)**
- 2. We gained little information from the spy. (Not much information)**



5. Adjective order

The order of adjectives:-

1 opinion

6 colour

2 size

7 origin

3 physical quality

8 material

4 shape

9 type

5 age

10 purpose

EXAMPLE:

“a round, big, pink, Turkish table(INCORRECT)

“a big, round, pink, Turkish table”(CORRECT)



6. Which vs. That

"That" is used to indicate a specific object, item, person, condition, etc., while "Which" is used to add information to objects, items, people, situations, etc.

- ▶ In a defining clause, use *that*.
- ▶ In non-defining clauses, use *which*.

EXAMPLE:

1. My CAR that has a broken seat is in the garage.

2. My CAR, which has a broken seat, is in the garage.



7. “Lay” or “lie”?

Lay is a verb that commonly means “to put or set (something) down.” *Lie* is a verb that commonly means “to be in or to assume a horizontal position” (or “to make an untrue statement,” but we’ll focus on the first definition). In other words, *lay* takes a direct object, and *lie* does not.

EXAMPLE:

I need to lay down.(INCORRECT)